

Some Records of Bred Tachinidae — 2

By T. H. FORD*

Since my first list of bred Tachinidae (Ford 1973), I have received further material from several correspondents, notably a collection bred by Mark R. Shaw, for which I am extremely grateful.

The initials shown after individual records are those of the following, who have identified the host species in most cases. (JC) John Culpin, (FH) Fred Harrison, (WR) William Reid, (DS) David Sheppard, (MRS) Mark R. Shaw, and (TS) Miss Tracey Smith.

Each record is followed either by (a) three dates, representing collection of host larva, emergence of parasite larva from host and emergence of parasite imago from its puparium; or (b) two dates, representing collection of host larva and eclosion of parasite imago, where the puparium is formed within the host remains. A line instead of a date indicates lack of data.

The nomenclature used here is that of the new edition of Kloet and Hincks' "Check List of British Insects (Diptera)" which is due to be published shortly, of which I was able to consult, by courtesy of Dr. R. W. Crosskey, a draft copy of his section on the Tachinidae. Where these names differ from those used by van Emden (1954), whose paper was used to determine the parasites, those of the latter are given in parentheses.

Athrycia curvinervis (Zett.) (*Voria trepida* var. *curvinervis*) 2 males, 2 females (one per host) ex prepupae of *Lacanobia oleracea* (L.) 15.x.72, 6.vii to 7.viii.73; Chislehurst, Kent, (MRS). 2 males, 1 female (one per host) ex larvae of *Mamestra brassicae* (L.) ix.73, x.73, 18.vi to 8.vii.74; East Didsbury, Manchester, (MRS). 1 male ex larva of *Euplexia lucipara* (L.) 14.x.72, 18.x.72, 25.vi.73; Chislehurst, Kent (MRS). In my first list (Ford 1973) I recorded a specimen of *Voria trepida* (Mg.) from a larva of *L. oleracea* (L.). Unfortunately this specimen has since been accidentally destroyed, but I now suspect, in the light of Dr. Herting's recent paper (Herting, 1973) that this was a male *curvinervis*, as I find that all the material in my possession, both bred and captured, consists of this species.

Blepharomyia amplicornis (Zett.), 3 males, 1 female (1 per host) ex larvae of *Opisthograptis luteolata* (L.) 22.viii.73, 25.viii. to 11.ix.73, 7.v. to 22.vi.74, East Didsbury, Manchester, (MRS). *Periscepsia spathulata* (Fall.) (*Wagneria lentis*), 1 male, 1 female, ex larva of *Xestia xanthographa* (D. & S.), 25.ii.74, ———, 13.v.74; Holloway, Derbyshire, (FH). First recorded from this host by Hammond and Smith (1953) and again in 1955, it would seem that *xanthographa* is a regular host of this species. *Elpe (Campylochaeta) inepta* (Mg.), 1 male ex larva of *Ematurga atomaria* L., 21.ix.74, 26.ix.74, 1.iii.75, (forced emergence); Edwinstowe, Notts. The records listed by Audcent (1942) for this host are all continental. In fact the only British record given by him for this Tachinid is by K. G. Blair, ex a larva of *Epirrhoe galiata* (D. & S.).

* 39, Ashbury Drive, Sheffield, S8 8LE.

Pelatachina tibialis (Fall.), 3 males, 3 females (1 per host) ex larvae of *Inachis io* (L.), 7.vii.73, 20.vii.73, iv.74, Woodchester Park, Stroud, Glos. (MRS). 5 males, 3 females ex larvae of *Aglais urticae* (L.) (1 per host) viii.73, viii.73, iv.74; Ringinglow, Sheffield, Yorks.

Lypha dubia (Fall.), 2 males (1 per host) ex larvae of *Operophtera brumata* (L.) 31.v.73, ———, 7 and 11.iv.74; Hell Coppice, Bucks. (MRS). 1 male ex larva of *O. brumata*, 31.v.73, ———, 14.iv.74; Otmoor, Oxon, (MRS). 1 male ex larva of *Erannia defolaria* (Clerck), 16.vi.73, ———, 22.iv.74; Holmesfield, Derbyshire.

Eurithia anthophila (R-D) (*Ernestia radicum*), 1 female ex larva of *Lacanobia oleracea* (L.) 18.x.73, 30.x.73, 28.vii.74; Staveley, Derbyshire.

Eurithia (*Ernestia*) *consobrina* (Mg.), 1 male ex larva of *L. oleracea* (L.) 15.x.72, 20.x.72, ———; Chislehurst, Kent, (MRS). 1 male ex larva of *Amphipyra tragopoginis* (Clerck) 31.v.73, 11.vi.73, ———; Rotherham, Yorks. Both the above failed to emerge from their puparia although the imago was fully formed. On dissection, both were seen to be male *consobrina* by the very distinctive genitalia.

Tachina (*Echinomyia*) *grossa* (L.). In 1974 I received a specimen from Paul Winter which had been bred from a larva of *Lasiocampa quercus* (L.), Yorkshire. No further data could be obtained.

Compsilura concinnata (Mg.), 1 female ex prepupa of *Euproctis similis* (Fuessly) 14.vi.74, ———, 10.vii.74; Lymm, Cheshire. The parasite puparium was formed inside the host cocoon, (MRS). 1 male ex larva of *E. similis*, ———, ———, 26.vi.73; Ilkeston, Derbyshire, (JC).

Exorista (*Tachina*) *fasciata* (Fall.), 2 males, 1 female (1 per host) ex larva of *Macrothylacia rubi* (L.) ix.72, 4 to 15.x.72; Wareham, Dorset, (MRS). 1 female ex larva of *Zygaena filipendulae* (L.) 16.vi.73, ———, 10.vii.73; Carew, Pembrokeshire. The parasite puparium was formed inside the host cocoon. A female of this species was bred in 1965, also from *filipendulae* from Yn-is-las, Cardiganshire.

Smidtia conspersa (Mg.), 1 female ex pupa of *Eperrita dilutata* (D. & S.) 31.v.73, 26.iv.74; Hell Coppice, Bucks. (MRS). This is a very interesting record since Audcent (1942) lists only continental records for *conspersa*, including one ex *dilutata* (Stein, 1924), but I cannot find any record of it having been bred in Britain from any source.

Cyzenis (*Monochaeta*) *albicans* (Fall.), 4 males, 9 females (1 per host) ex pupae of *Operophtera brumata* (L.), 31.v. and 7.vi.73, 7 to 26.iv.74; from Hell Coppice, Bucks.; Otmoor, Oxon; Millers Dale and Monks Dale, Derbyshire, (MRS). The puparia of the parasites were all formed inside the pupal shells of the hosts.

Pales pavida (Mg.), 1 male ex prepupa of *L. oleracea* (L.), 15.x.72, ———, 21.i.73; Chislehurst, Kent, (MRS). 1 male, 2 females ex larva of *Apamea crenata* (Hufnagel) (det. THF), 17.xii.74, 20.xii.74, 8.i.75, (forced emergence), Castle Eden Dene,

Co. Durham, (DS). Audcent (1942) does not include *crenata* in his list of hosts, and I cannot find any subsequent record, so that this would appear to be the first British instance of a Tachinid from this host. However, *pavida* has been bred from *A. unanimitis* (Hübner) and *A. monoglypha* (Hufner).

Phryno vetula (Mg.), 1 female ex larva of *Lasiocampa quercus* (L.); Totley, Sheffield, Yorks., (WR).

Carcelia lucorum (Mg.), 2 females ex larva of *Arctia caja* (L.), 30.vi.73, ———, 14.vii.73; Rotherham, Yorks., (TS). The parasite puparia were formed outside the body of the host, but inside the cocoon of the latter. This has been the case on the three occasions that I have seen this species bred.

Nilea (Eumea) hortulana (Mg.), 1 male, 2 females ex larva of *Acronicta psi* (L.) 12.viii.73, 31.viii.73, 1 to 12.vi.74; East Didsbury, Manchester, (MRS).

Phryxe heraclei (Mg.) (*Zenillia latilobata*), a brood of 13 from one larva of *Philudoria potatoria* (L.), Woodchester Park, Stroud, Gloucestershire, 30.vi.74, vii.74, 29.vii. to 8.viii.74, (MRS). Seven other broods of this species were bred by Mr. Shaw from *potatoria* larvae, from Abbots Moss, Cheshire. Four larvae produced one fly each, two larvae two flies each, and the seventh larva produced three flies. *P. potatoria* appears to be the only host recorded in Britain for *heraclei*.

Phryxe (Zenillia) nemea (Mg.), 4 males, 4 females (1 to 3 per host) ex larvae of *Abraxas grossulariata* (L.) 9.vi.74, 16.vi.74, circa 30.vi.74; Carnforth, Lancs., (MRS). 2 males, 1 female ex pupa of *Lacanobia oleracea* (L.) 15.x.72, 22 to 30.iii.73; Chislehurst, Kent, (MRS). 2 females ex larva of *Phlogophora meticulosa* (L.), 28.i.73, 6.ii.73, 22.ii.73; Headington, Oxon, (MRS). 1 male, 1 female ex larva of *Dicestra trifolii* (Hufner) viii.74, ———, 1.v.75; Sidmouth, Devon, (FH). 1 female (rather small) ex larva of *Operophtera brumata* (L.) 16.vi.73, 26.vi.73, 5.vii.73; Holmesfield, Derbyshire.

Phryxe (Zenillia) vulgaris (Fall.), 1 female ex pupa of *Pieris rapae* (L.), 9.ix.73, 4.v.74, 28.v.74; Gawsworth, Cheshire, (MRS). 1 male, 1 female ex pupa of *Aglais urticae* (L.), 18.viii.70, 29.viii.70, 13.x.70; and 1 male from another pupa: Otmoor, Oxon, (MRS).

Pseudoperichaeta nigrolineata (Walker) (*Zenillia roseanae* B&B) 1 female ex larva of *Pleuroptya ruralis* (Scopoli), 9.x.73, 28.iii.74, 16.vi.74; East Didsbury, Manchester, (MRS).

Acknowledgements

I wish to thank Dr. R. W. Crosskey of the British Museum (Natural History) for permission to use his new List of the British Tachinidae, also all correspondents who provided material. I hope that they will continue to preserve any Tachinidae they may breed in the future.

Postscript

Since the above article was submitted to the Editor, the specimen of *Athrycia corvinervis* (Zett.) bred from *Euplexia lucipara* (L.) was sent to Dr. B. Herting of the Staatliches

Museum für Naturkunde, Stuttgart, for examination. He kindly confirmed the determination, and added that this was an interesting new host record. I should like to record my thanks to Dr. Herting for his kindness and courtesy.

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AUTOGRAPHA BRACTEA D. & S. IN MONMOUTHSHIRE. — With reference to Mr. R. F. Bretherton's recent note (*Ent. Rec.*, 1975, 87: 255) on the southward spread of *Autographa bractea* D. & S. and its occurrence in Worcestershire, it may be of interest to record its appearances in Monmouthshire where it now seems to be of not infrequent occurrence.

1969 saw its first arrival in the m.v. trap which I had been running regularly in my garden at Usk since 1966. Single specimens turned up on 15th July and 1st August. A friend, Lt. Col. R. B. Humphreys, who also occasionally runs a trap at Usk, recorded two specimens here on 13th July and one on 14th July. A trap in Wentwood Forest, operated by Mr. and Mrs. R. Dean, produced two on 30th July and singles on 4th and 8th August.

The species was not seen here during the following two years but 1972 saw its reappearance in my Usk trap with two freshly-emerged insects on 22nd July and a single moth on 6th August.

Three were recorded the following year at Usk and one arrived on the sheet whilst I was using a m.v. light near Whitebrook in the Wye Valley on 10th July.

There were no records for 1974, but in 1975 one came to light near Abertillery in north-western Monmouthshire on 13th July and another appeared in my garden trap on 4th August. — Dr. G. A. NEIL HORTON, Plas Newydd, Usk, Gwent.

MACROGLOSSUM STELLATARUM (L.) IN LANCASHIRE. — I saw a specimen of *Macroglossum stellatarum* (L.) at phlox flowers in my garden on 2nd September, 1975 and a further specimen was seen by Mr. D. W. Kydd about one mile from here on 23rd September. Neither of us had seen this species previously in the north of England and it seems possible that 1975 was an exceptional year for this migrant. — E. F. HANCOCK, "Abbotsford", Belmont, Ulverston, Cumbria, LA12 7HD.